

### Upper Snake Creek Settlement:

In the summer of 1859, 5 families' settled along the Upper Snake Creek, 2 miles above the present Midway Town Square; immediately below the convergence of White Pine and Snake Creeks; and near the warm springs there.

These first families' were:

1. Jesse McCarrell or McCarroll
2. Benjamin Mark Smith
3. Sidney Hyrum or Harmon Epperson
4. Jeremiah Robey
5. David Wood

These families spent that first winter of 1859-1860 along the Upper Snake Creek.

This Upper Snake Creek Settlement became known as Mound City due to the warm spring "mounds."

Other early settlers in the Upper Snake Creek Settlement were:

6. Peter Shirts
7. John Hanks
8. Ephriam Knowlton Hanks
9. Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ Riggs

References: 1. How Beautiful Upon The Mountains pp. 648

### Lower Snake Creek Settlement:

Lower Snake Creek settlement was the first settled but remained the smaller of the two settlements. This first settlement was located about 1 1/2 miles south of the present Midway Town Square. Some of the early settlers in the Lower Snake Creek settlement were:

1. John Halmah VanWagoner who built the first flour grist mill in the whole valley.
- 2.

<sup>Creek</sup>  
By the Spring of 1862 there were 50 families settled along the Snake Settlements.

Community enthusiasm and Spirit encouraged them to build their first meeting house by the 24th July 1862 celebration. It was built of logs in the Upper Settlement and had a dirt roof and a dirt floor and was probably only one room.

By this time, Presiding Bishop Joseph Stacey Murdock of Heber in a meeting 26 June 1862, appointed Sidney Hyrum Epperson to be Presiding Elder of the Upper Snake Creek Settlement of about 30 families. He chose John Fausett and Samuel Thompson as his councilors. Sidney served till 10 Apr 1870.

The Lower Snake Creek Settlement of 20 families became a teacher's district of the Upper Settlement.

Because of Indian troubles in 1866 and because of "There is strength in numbers," these two Upper and Lower Snake Creek Settlements wisely chose to come together and build a fort approximately on the present Town Square site of present Midway.

### Lower Snake Creek Settlement Continued

The town was first laid out with Sidney H. Epperson and John Huber carrying the tapes and Benjamin Mark Smith and Attewall Wootton Sr. carrying the pegs.

Next came the "Forting in." 75 log cabins were built side by side, forming a square fort for their protection.

This fort was in use thru 1868 to 1870. Then people located near the fort site rather than move back to Upper or Lower Settlements, thus Midway was born.

#### References:

1. Pict. of Joseph Stacey Murdock (HBUM p. 43)
2. Pict. of Sidney H. Epperson (ibid pp. 648-9)
3. Pictures of Midway Fort (HBUM pp 543-4)